

IAHF NEWS

ITALIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER • MAY 2011 • FOUNDED AUGUST 5, 1975 • CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

President's Message

by Ken Borelli



PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY

This is the two-part focus of the IAHF. It ties into the mission of the Italian American Heritage Foundation by first and foremost promoting our Italian American Heritage. Secondly, but equally important, is managing our Foundation as a means to promote our heritage. The two goals merge in many of our events, especially in our annual scholarship program and Italian Family Festa, which is now 31 years old. The foundation supports other community wide celebrations of our traditions, as well, such as the Festa di San Guiseppe, where all proceeds support community charities to feed those in need, and our expanded language program. For the most part, all our other IAHF events throughout the year support these two goals to a greater or lesser extent, such as our recent and very successful Crab Feed, Benefit for Opera San Jose, our newly established film series, regional lunches and a culinary series.

What also drives the Foundation's engines, in addition to events, are its dues and hall rentals. Last year our hall rentals were down as reflective of the realities of today's national economy. The IAHF is no exception to these difficult economic times, and we needed to dip into our IAHF reserves to cover facility and operational expenses. This year, again following national trends, hall rentals are up, and weekend bookings are solid. Barring unforeseen consequences, such as economic spikes, i.e. high energy costs, we are planning to be in the black in terms of income. Likewise, with the expanded language program,

film series, culinary programs and special events, weekday events are also up. Dues are remaining stable and have actually grown in spite of the normal attrition.

These trends are not surprising among many fraternal and volunteer based nonprofit Organizations, including various Italian American groups, too. Keep in mind the IAHF has one half-time paid staff

person, with contractual arrangements as needed. We at the IAHF definitely depend on and welcome our volunteer base. Member participation is one part of our Sustainability Plan. The goodwill and support of our membership base is critical to our success as a foundation. I would love to single out all of the volunteers that help the IAHF throughout the year but that would take literally a couple of pages so I will save that for another time!

Within these realities and our vision to promote our Italian American Heritage in the community, our Board has spent much time over these last several years in trying to transcend, or perhaps the better term is to "mitigate", today's economic realities. That is where a long term "Sustainability Plan" comes in. One of the first goals is better usage of our foundation facilities to include more hall time for workshops, business seminars, memorials, special events, and greater weekday income rentals. (We recently had a successful Hall Expo highlighting our facility).

Secondly, the Board is also actively exploring additional cultural grants and award opportunities for the IAHF. And, thirdly, the Board is looking at endowments and special community focused planned giving programs to maximize our assets. We are also recruiting technical assistance to help us with these tasks. There is a whole field of nonprofit support systems that we need

to link up with in order to put in motion a realistic sustainability plan. And again, as in all our activities, we welcome membership support and input.

Returning to our annual Festa, it probably symbolizes to the greater Santa Clara County Community and beyond what our Italian American Heritage represents. It also is a focal point of

volunteer energy, in addition to being a major San Jose event and celebration with outreach to over 25,000 people. This year we also hope to make it a more improved revenue source for the IAHF. Festa Chairperson Joe Rizzi has a special article in this month newsletter about the Festa. The 31-year history of our Festa would make for fascinating reading, and many of our volunteers have lived those 31 years personally, but for the new members I am sure it would be an engaging tale. Joe will be highlighting the logistics of putting on a two-day community celebration of Italian heritage. It is a challenging task, hence the importance of your support and sponsorship. In many ways, too, for those working on the Festa it has become an engaging piece of creativity and pride of ownership for the IAHF. Consider just one task alone, the logistics of entertainment, and you can begin to appreciate how Festa planning plays out on multiple levels.

As we work on our plans for sustaining our Cultural Heritage, vision, and Foundation, we will be giving you periodic updates. In addition, the Board especially wants to solicit your input. This is both a long and short term goal. We as a Board want to ensure that our Foundation and Heritage have a long term footing from which to promote, and, frankly, invest in our Italian American Heritage in the Santa Clara Valley. Remember if we don't do it, *who will?* 🐼

SAVE THE DATE

ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA

AUGUST 27 & 28, 2011

GUADALUPE RIVER
PARK & GARDENS

A MESSAGE FROM DENISE CAMPAGNA OF ST. JOSEPH'S TABLE

I wish to extend my heartfelt appreciation to all the volunteers who dedicate their time and effort year after year to support the St. Joseph's Table and make it a success. I truly enjoy working with each one of you. Sincerely, Denise Campagna

Special thanks to the music ministers, Joni Lang and Beverly Owens, and readers Cathy De Maria and Emily Corral.

Thank you to Father Peter Pabst for conducting the Mass.

Thank you to the St. Joseph committee and volunteers:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| • Rosalie & Sal Turturici | • Tony Sprugasci | • Joe & Rose Cozzitorto | • Marilyn Uzzardo |
| • Patrina & Frank Di Piazza | • Rose Sunseri | • Julia Sunseri | • Rosa Lopez |
| • Joe & Terry Riolo | • Gene & Joanne San Filippo | • Bess Nicosia | • Dave Roberts |
| • Irving Sprugasci | • Joseph Fasano | • Sandy Bettencourt | • Phil Barone |
| • Carmella Gullo | • Joe & Barbara Caruso | • Ann Fitzgerald | |
| • Joe & Connie Rotolo | • Frances Maggio | • Zina Russo | |

Thank you to the following private donors:

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| • Vince Cala | • Nancy Melander | • Bella Borge | • Kathleen Bondi |
| • Chuck Gullo | • Ann DeLuca | • Vi Vierra | • Manuel Bernardo |
| • Nina Boyd | • Fred Zambataro | • Marge Valente | |

ALL cash contributions will be donated to Martha's Kitchen, Salvation Army and Loaves and Fishes.

CORINNE TOMEO SELECTED TO FILL IAHF BOARD VACANCY



At the April Board meeting, the IAHF Board voted to approve the recommendation of the IAHF Nomination Committee to appoint Corinne Tomeo to fill a recently vacated Board position. The IAHF wants to also thank the Nomination Committee, chaired by IAHF Board member Mike Console, for going over the applications of some very strong candidates. I want to share a little about Corinne with our members. Corinne joined the IAHF two years ago, and, since becoming a member, has pursued her interest in our language and cultural programs. Late last year we also recruited her as our secretary, so she has attended many of our monthly Board meetings doing a yeoman's job keeping up the minutes. She will also continue to take minutes of our Board meetings as our IAHF Secretary (GRA-ZIE!). In addition, she has in the past served in the nonprofit world as Board Chairperson of the SCC Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. She has also been an attorney for more than 30 years, and has practiced civil litigation in the State and Federal court systems for over eight years, as well as provided "in house" counsel for public companies for more than 20 years. She is a graduate of the Santa Clara University School of Law and of the University of California at Berkeley. Most recently, she had been the Acting General Counsel of Adaptec Inc., also located in Santa Clara County.

One of Corinne's goals for the IAHF is to help us explore the feasibility of establishing an endowment fund. In addition, she has actively supported our committees through her volunteer time and wants to help with our membership drive to expand our membership base in the community. She also brings with her a passion for her Italian heritage that also includes going through the not-so-easy process of securing "derivative Italian Citizenship". Recent changes in Italian law have made it possible for those with Italian ancestry to secure Italian citizenship through a process of applications to have a determination made regarding derivative Italian Citizenship. As an aside, and as an "FYI", the same holds true for the United States and other countries, and this citizenship is derived from one's parents', and sometime one's grandparents', legal immigrant status. (Hopefully, we can also get Corinne to provide an informational-only workshop for those IAHF members also interested in securing dual citizenship. This is a common question called into the IAHF!).

On a more personal note, Corinne's family came from the region of Campania. Her family immigrated from Italy in the late 1880's to the Boston area from Arienzo, Prov. Campagna, and in 2005 she visited the town of her grandfather's birth. She has visited Italy numerous times, and is "enhancing" her Italian language skills at our IAHF language classes. As we welcome Corinne to the Board, we want to also take time to remind you, our members, that this year there will be four vacancies due to termed limitations, so we want to actively begin the recruitment process now to select additional new candidates for the IAHF Board. This is a great way to invest in your heritage and to help share our common vision and enhance our Italian American heritage. *Welcome, Corinne.* 🍷

ITALIAN CLASSES



Parlate Italiano?
Italian Classes for IAHF members are taught by Delia Schizzano. Beginning & Intermediate Classes are available at \$30 for 4 weeks. Please contact Delia at caradelia@yahoo.com

A Message From The Editor



Dear Readers,
 Any and all articles or photos for the IAHF newspaper must be submitted via email.

If you do not have access to email, please have a relative or friend submit your materials on your behalf. Going forward, the IAHF can no longer type your articles or scan your photos.

Thank you very much for your understanding.

Sincerely, Judy Verona Joseph
 IAHF Newspaper Editor

Joe DeRose and Amici June 26th, 2011



LiVE
 kuumbwa
JAZZ
 santa cruz

Kuumbwa Jazz Center

320 Cedar St # 2, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Sunday, June 26th

4:00pm (Doors open at 3:00pm)

Tickets: \$15



BUY TICKETS ON-LINE at: **BROWN PAPER TICKETS**

www.joederosedrums.com



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday Family Barbecue

Sunday July 17th

Social Hour 3pm • Dinner 4pm

Student Scholarship Awards 5pm

THE STATE OF THE ITALIAN FAMILY FESTA

As we rapidly approach the launch of our 31st Italian Family Festa, excitement is building. Our goal this year, as it has been for the previous 30 years, is to share the traditions of Italian-American heritage within our community. Santa Clara County has a wealth of ethnicities and has become a true melting pot of people who celebrate by hosting their own heritage events. That said, no one ethnic group has produced a community festival the size of ours and for as many years, for which we should be very proud.

Over the years we have pitched our tent in many different locations, from downtown San Jose to the Santa Clara Fairgrounds, Discovery Meadows, Town



and Country, Santana Row and Willow Glen, and now in Guadalupe River Park and Gardens. All of these venues have

presented us with many challenges both logistically and financially, but none have been more challenging than our current and new permanent home at Guadalupe River Park and Gardens. Now that we have last year under our belt to guide us, we have the advantage of experience to become more efficient in our staging and vendor operations. This location presents us with a cost structure unlike no other venue that we have previously contracted. The city fees for permits, police protection, private security, street closure and city services, to name just a few, can be very costly, as you might expect with hosting an event of this size. We have all read in the papers about other organizations such as the Cinco De Mayo Parade, Tapestry Arts and Gay Pride scaling back on their events due to escalating costs of city services. We were very fortunate in being rated high in stature by the City's Arts and Cultural Affairs committee and approved for this year's City grant funds of \$12,000.00. We also secured in-kind services for our waste and recycling programs which helps offset some of our waste disposal expenses.

It's important for our membership to understand the financial impact in producing such a large quality event. The misconception is that the Organization yields a large amount of revenue from hosting this event, which is not the reality of our situation, most especially in this down economy. To give you an idea of what is required to stage this event, the following requirements are part and parcel in producing the Festa: booths and canopies, stages, tables and chairs, portable bathrooms, entertainment, sound system, electrical power grid, SJPd and private security, park rangers and park staff, health, alcohol and fire permits, insurance, park rental fees, signage and banners, grounds maintenance, ATM machines, promotional and marketing materials, event management, golf carts, two-way radios, etc. The cumulative costs for all of these required necessities ranges anywhere from \$120,000 to \$130,000 for the two day event. So,



how do we pay for the event? We collect fees for the spaces sold to our vendors for their booths; IAHF owns the concessions for all beverages and four of our own food booths, sponsorships, donations and



grant monies. Collectively this revenue stream offsets the major expenses we incur leaving us with a meager profit of anywhere from \$6-10,000. Over the last five years, we have earned as much as \$20,000-\$30,000 in locations such as Santana Row and our first year in Willow Glen, but that was an result of both partners sharing expenses. At Santana Row we did not incur any city costs for permits and city services as the venue was located on private property and there were no property rental fees, for example. In addition, SJPd security costs were minuscule in comparison to what we currently pay on city property due to Santana Row providing its own in-



house security force. Operational costs in that location were also substantially less due to their in-kind services support and the already established infrastructure for things such as electricity and manpower. In our first year in Willow Glen, their business association paid for street closure permit fees which did help our bottom line, but they did not do so the following two years, which forced us to incur the brunt of the cost.

Our organization does everything possible within our capabilities to secure the best case scenario in competitive pricing from our service vendors, negotiated entertainer fees and in-kind service requests. Every dollar spent is done so judiciously as to stay within the limits of our budget. Although we are focused on our financial responsibility, the organization feels strongly that it is important to never compromise the quality of the event. I think any member who has attended our Festas over the years can attest to that credo.

Finally, we are including a donation form for your consideration in the IAHF Newsletter in the months leading up to the event. We are very sensitive that these are tough times for many, so any contribution would be a tremendous help. We also ask that you take the time to attend our fundraising events that we are producing in the next couple of months. We will be hosting a Casino night in July and a kick-off BBQ dance party in August two weeks prior to the Festa. These events are intended to help raise operating funds to off-set our expenses and increase the bottom line. Owning a piece of this amazing event whether it be by donation, attending the fundraising events or becoming a sponsor of the Festa's many activities would be a wonderful way of showing your support for your 31st Annual Italian-American Family Festa.

Sincere thanks, Joe Rizzi / 2011 Festa Director and Festa Committee

PASS THE SALT, PLEASE

by Valentina Cirasola | Author and Designer



Among all the small treasures my mother left me, there is a quaint salt container that stole my heart. It is a hand-made Capodimonte ceramic with a brass base and a silver spoon. My mother put it out during the “feste terribili,” meaning those important occasions when lot of guests came and the table was spectacularly made up. This small vessel contained salt as a courtesy to the guests and it was intended to pass around when needed. However, it was rarely used, if food is properly balanced with seasons and flavors, there is no need for additional salt. Adding salt to food served at the table is kind of offense for the chef or cook.

Before refrigeration was invented, salt and many different spices were so important for the conservation of meat and fish. In the haute cuisine of the Middle Ages spices were abundantly used for a couple of reasons, one was to prove a higher status symbol. Rich people could afford the high price of all the spices and thus consumed about 2 lb a day, but in more modest households the common spices used

were the most affordable: vinegar, mustard, onion, garlic and of course salt. The second reason for using salt and spices was to cover up at times the dull taste of meat gone bad and unpleasant fish smell.

Salt consumption in the 13th century was in such a high demand for preservation of food that it was necessary to create beds of sea salt drawn from Oceans and Seas. It was coarse and dark with all the impurities of the sea, but better for curing meat than refined salt. The white variety of salt was used for cooking, thus it was more expensive.

Did the people in the Middle Ages use salt shakers at the table as we do today? No, but hear this: in the British Museum I saw the Nef, a stunning elegant salt vessel used in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. This extravagant 15th century table piece was made in the shape of a ship with the most elaborate head masts, sails and even crew. The particularity was that the Nef was placed in front of the most important person at table as a respect to their high status. After the VIP used it, the Nef was rolled from one end of the table to the other. The examples made with wheels were the most elegant, but most had legs or pedestals. The German style Nef had a clock, music and figurines animated by a small engine.

A Nef was usually made of silver, silver-gilt or gold, often further embellished with enamel and jewels. I would have wanted to own and cherish such an exquisite piece, just like my mother’s piece!

The dinner table of Middle Ages and Renaissance always fascinated me. No silverware only knives, no napkins, no refined glassware, but they had spices in abundance and during the grand feasts they even had the grandest effects with gold and silver leaf gilding the beaks and feet of roasted birds, pheasants, swans and peacocks.

It amazes me to think how so many sophisticated effects were achieved in dark kitchens, full of smoke, unhygienic, no automation, heat, long hours of preparation and cooking handling heavy pots. This proves what I have always thought: if you know how to orchestrate a meal, you can do it anywhere, “small kitchens are for geniuses”.

Remembering my mom, I often put out her Capodimonte ceramic salt vessel on my table, right along with a less pretentious container made from Himalayan salt intended for salt.

Ciao, Valentina

www.Valentinadesigns.com



FRETTA!! LAST DAY TO BUY YOUR LITTLE ITALY BRICKS!



The last day to buy your bricks for Phase 2 will be Wednesday, July 20th, at the "Little Italy Night" at the San Jose Earthquakes Game. We sold over 300 bricks for Phase 1 and have sold 115 bricks so far for Phase 2. We can do better than that!!! We will be installing these bricks before this year's Italian Family Festa in Little Italy and the Guadalupe Park. The Location for Phase 2 bricks will be the walkway that connects the current bricks in the "Piazza Piccola Italia" and the Guadalupe River Park. You can buy a brick through our website at www.littleitalysj.com, or download a PDF of the Brickform on the website and mail the form with a check. Help Little Italy San Jose earn the funds needed to put up the Little Italy Arch, Murals of Italian Americans, and Bocce Courts in the Guadalupe Park. Honor your family and receive a tax deductible donation!!! 🍷



*Massimo Chisessi with Viola Buitoni
at the Culinary Program,
"The Italian Pantry in California"*



*Mark Leslie, book author of "Beyond The Pasta"
signs his book at the IAHF Culinary event.*

AND, WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS...

In preparation for our Limoncello program in June, the IAHF is in need of around 50 lemons. Really. If you have a tree full of organic (unsprayed) lemons that you don't know what to do with, please call the IAHF office at (408) 293-7122. Grazie! 🍋



ITALIAN MOVIE NIGHT AT THE IAHF

LA TIGRE E LA NEVE

THE TIGER AND THE SNOW / 2005

Starring Roberto Benigni & Nicoletta Braschi

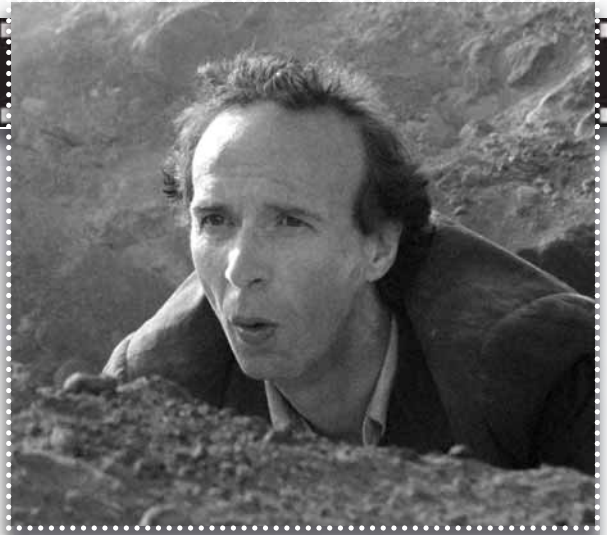
Film @ 7:00 PM • \$5 with popcorn / beverages available

Attilio de Giovanni (ROBERTO BENIGNI) teaches poetry in Italy. He has a romantic soul, and women love him. But he is in love with Vittoria, and the love is unrequited. Every night he dreams of marrying her, in his boxer shorts and t-shirt, as Tom Waits sings. Vittoria travels to Iraq with her friend, Fuad, a poet; they are there with the second Gulf War breaks out. Vittoria is wounded during the Iraq War and Attilio manages to reach Baghdad with the intention of saving her life. He finds Vittoria in an Iraqi hospital lying in a coma; like thousands of Iraqis, she is in danger of dying from lack of medicine. Fuad directs Attilio to an old Iraqi, pharmacist who suggests ancient treatments that keep her alive. Attilio locates scuba gear (to provide oxygen) and even "a weapon of mass destruction" (a flyswatter).

Enjoy the final scenes of this wonderful film that offers sharp laughs and touches of tenderness amid moments of drama and danger.

Italian Movie Night is sponsored by the IAHF Language Program • 425 N. 4th Street, San Jose, CA

For more information, please call 408-293-7122



ITALIAN ACTRESS SOPHIA LOREN HONORED BY HOLLYWOOD

Legendary actress and beauty Sophia Loren was honored on Wednesday, May 5, with a tribute from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Hollywood. John Travolta calls her the "most delicious thing to come out of Italy."

The tribute comes 50 years after Loren won the Best Actress Oscar, making her the first person to win an acting Oscar for a foreign-language role. She won for the Italian movie "Two Women" in 1961. She did not attend the 1961 ceremony and told the audience on Wednesday she never dreamed the movie would receive such an honor.

"The Academy Award changed my life completely," says Loren. "It helped me to believe in myself and encouraged me to push my own artistic boundaries."

Tom Hanks, Billy Crystal and her son Edoardo Ponti were also in attendance and Roberto Benigni, who won Best Actor in 1997 for "Life is Beautiful," serenaded her with "O Sole Mio" over video message.

Her son says of Loren, "We are here because we love you and you deserve every single thing." 🐾



HAVE YOU MOVED?

Please let us know if you have moved so we have your correct address on file to send your monthly IAHF Newsletter.

New Postal regulations do not allow for "Return To Sender" services.

So, if you have moved, we would have no way of knowing if you are receiving all your correspondence from the IAHF.

If you have a new address, please contact the IAHF at: 425 N. Fourth St., San Jose, CA 95112

Phone: (408) 293-7122 • Fax: (408) 293-7154 • Email: iahfsj@iahfsj.org

UNA STORIA SEGRETA: REACTIONS & REMEMBERANCES

Last month's public forum, held at the Italian American Heritage Foundation, and the National Una Storia Segreta Exhibit, which was on display at the San Jose downtown Martin Luther King Jr. Library, re-addressed the secret history of the Italian American evacuation and internment during WWII.

These historic events gained the IAHF national recognition from the U.S. House of Representatives, with two congressional representatives in attendance, along with a California state senator and an assemblyman, as well as notable elected county and city officials. In addition, more than 200 people attended the public forum and several hundred visited the exhibit at the library.

The outstanding follow-on of this pro-active community outreach program was that it created widespread interest in an important part of Italian American history, which had been put aside and forgotten since the FBI released its secret files in 1994. And it gave the IAHF the opportunity to have a community voice such as that shared by our other minority neighbors and to demonstrate that we Italian Americans are no longer "a silent minority" in our community. -- Tony Zerbo 🍷

Neno Aiello reported from his docent shift at the Martin Luther King Library's exhibit of Una Storia Segreta:

I was on duty from 10:00 AM until 4:30 PM. I was overwhelmed that 272 people came to view the exhibit. They all stated that they saw the article in the San Jose Mercury. I wrote thank you notes to the two gentlemen from the newspaper who had done the original articles. Most of the people who attend had no knowledge that this had occurred to people of Italian origin.

Only one lady told me that it was the right thing to do. "Our country didn't know who might be a spy. They did what they had to do to protect us." I told her the same words that I used when I heard Walter Lippmann make the same statement after the war, that it was the right thing to do. He had made the statement in 1942 and repeated it after the war.

I told him, "Walter, you were wrong then and you are wrong now." The lady said, "Let me think about it." What more could I ask. At least we had a dialogue about it and people can make their own decisions.

Neno also noted that the exhibit will be going to Pittsburg, California, on May 21st and will be at the Pittsburg Historical Society Museum if you are interested in seeing the exhibit. Pittsburg, California, due to the large group of Italian American fishermen there primarily of Sicilian origins, was particularly hard hit by those war time restrictions. 🍷

Mama, Perche?

I was shocked and surprised, 42 years after the onset of World War II, to discover that my mother, a proud Italian-American immigrant living here for 20 years, was considered an enemy alien by our government and was almost sent to an internment camp. I had learned about the horrific treatment of the Japanese-Americans soon after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December, 1941, but the treatment of Italians, my mother? This had never been spoken about in our family.

Only after looking through some of my mother's personal papers, long after her death and while looking for information for my daughter's high school study on World War II, did I discover her application form for "Exemption for Internment." This form was filled with all of her personal information as required, and was officially stamped "DENIED." This document was carefully folded and put away along with a few ration stamps, newspaper articles, and letters from both of my brothers who were serving overseas. This form was the secret that was never shared. I questioned my older brothers, sister and cousins about the war years. Only then did I become aware of the curfew and the confiscations of shortwave radios, fishing boats and firearms, and shocking information of impositions placed on our Italian families that was quietly documented in the hearts and minds of those who lived it.

My mother was never interned, but for me I now painfully grieve over the fear, the very real fear, that my mother must have felt and endured during those changing and uncertain times, not knowing from one day to the next what would happen. Would she, a loving wife and mother, be pulled away from her husband, family and home and everything familiar and be forced into an unknown place full of uncertainties with me, a mere toddler, and my sister in tow?

She always spoke of America with great pride and gratitude. She became a naturalized citizen in 1943. She never complained about or criticised this country. She left the past behind, and moved forward. America was her country.

I am now left to deal with "why" she never revealed any of this to me, and the overwhelming emotions I feel when thinking of the fear she felt, and that I can no longer comfort and console her. -- Maria G. Bandy 🍷

What an amazing forum at IAHF today. Una Storia Segreta by Lawrence DiStasi-tells the story of Italian-American internment during WWII. To think that we have kept silent for so long, that people who are in their sixties and seventies are still unaware of the Italian-American history of internment. This tells me that it has been long enough for the story to remain quiet. Frankly, it has been far too long. Keeping silent serves no purpose, and I for one have started to scream.

If we do NOT shout about this from the rooftops, we will fade into history- soon the people who hold these stories will be leaving this

earth. We can't let them go without listening to them. We have to ask the questions, and we have to beg them to answer. We have to tell them that they have nothing to be ashamed of. That it is our country that harbors this shame-not our people. We have to tell them that we will make sure that we are the "memory keepers", the story-tellers, for this generation. Ask your family to tell you the story. Write it down. Share it with everyone you know.

I am so touched by what I learned at IAHF tonight. I am also angry. I am angry enough to begin writing letters to people who can make changes-not only for an apology to the Italian-Americans, but a promise that our story will be told in our school textbooks for children from elementary school on. We can not let this go untold. It is a part of the Italian-American experience-which makes it an AMERICAN history lesson. No other culture would allow this piece of history to go unacknowledged. Why have we?

When I saw Japanese-Americans sitting in the audience today at IAHF-it felt like such a wonderful show of support in regard to such a shared, negative time in our history. We are one people, really, and we must not let this happen again-which is why we have to stand as a people, and speak to the issue of Italian-American internment. Don't believe that it can never happen again. It can, and it will, if any of this remains out of the history books.

I brought along my aunts to this event, and we have now started a dialogue that we needed to start. I will begin to take notes, and they will tell me all that they can remember. And in turn, I will tell it to the children I teach, and one day, they will tell it to others. In the meantime, it is my personal challenge to get this in the school text books. The true history of the brave Italian-Americans during WWII.

I am so happy to have our Italian school. It's a wonderful place to gather & speak to the issues of Italian-Americans. It is also a place where we will become activists- to go forward to make positive changes happen. Again, I have been working toward learning more about this issue since I was nine years old. Now, maybe I can actually do something about it.

Today, at the IAHF, I heard people talking about the "dignitaries" who were on hand. They meant the politicians, the authors, the educators. To me, the dignitaries in the room, were the people who had their loved ones taken from them, their land confiscated, their livelihoods destroyed & their hearts broken.

Please go to the MLK Library, and view the exhibit regarding this terrible time in our history. The exhibit will be there through the end of the month.

Thank you to the IAHF, and all of the the wonderful people who participated in teaching us all so much. I am grateful, and I will now take this "movement" and run with it. Join me? -- Theresa M. Sabatino, A Proud Italian-American 🇮🇹



Congressman Mike Honda



*Over 200 People Attended
Una Storia Segreta*



Senator Joe Simitian



*Judy Verona Joseph presents WWII Veterans
Alfredo Chiotti and Samuel Licata*



*Event Chair Tony Zerbo, Lawrence DiStasi, author
of Una Storia Segreta, Judy Verona Joseph, Co-Chair
and MC, and Ken Borelli, IAHF President & Co-Chair*



*Marcello Curci,
Deputy Consul General of Italy in San Francisco*



*Supervisor Dave Cortese, Congresswoman
Zoe Lofgren and former CA State
Assemblyman Dominic Cortese*



Assemblyman Paul Fong



DID YOU *FEEL THAT?*
EARTHQUAKES

ITALIAN NIGHT

CO-PRESENTED BY
 LITTLE ITALY SAN JOSE
 CELEBRATE ITALIAN CULTURE WITH THE
EARTHQUAKES!



Earthquakes vs. Vancouver Whitecaps FC

Wednesday, July 20, 2011 @ 7:30 PM • Buck Shaw Stadium, Santa Clara University

Benefits:

Cultural Exposition with Italian Crafts & Games (Exposition begins @ 5:30 PM)

Team Autographed Jersey Silent Auction • Discounted Tickets

A Portion of Each Ticket & All Proceeds from the Silent Auction fund the New Archway for Little Italy San Jose

For more information about Little Italy San Jose, please visit: www.littleitalysj.com

For questions, or to submit orders, please contact: Joshua DeVincenzi Melander / 408 394 2893 / jcmelander@sbcglobal.com

*That's
 Italian!*



ITALIAN MEN'S CLUB BINGO

Elks Lodge, 444 W. Alma St, San Jose

Phone: (408) 286-2007

- Every Monday Night; Doors Open at 4:00 PM
- Early Bird at 6:00 PM; Regular Session at 6:45 PM
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- Mark Rindge, D.D.S. and Barbara Rindge
- See Spot Run Dog Walking (Rochelle Migliore)
- Steve Sgarlato

IAHF NEWS

Send your letters, comments and articles to:

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IAHF News is published monthly by The Italian American Heritage Foundation.

Editor: Judy Verona Joseph

Design: John Romano

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UPCOMING EVENTS JUNE 2011

- 🍷 June 2
Festa Della Repubblica
- 🍷 June 9
Limoncello Hands-On Workshop
- 🍷 June 16
Regional Luncheon: Toscana Region
- 🍷 July 17
*Sunday Family Dinner
with Scholarship Recipients*
- 🍷 July 22
Casino Night Fundraiser

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